



MS NOMAGUGU SIMELANE, MEC FOR HEALTH

WE NEED MORE PEOPLE AGED OVER 60 TO GET VACCINATED



TURNOUT IN TOWNSHIPS AND VILLAGES IS LOW AND NEEDS TO INCREASE

RISE IN NEW INFECTIONS IS WORRYING, AND DEMANDS URGENT INTERVENTION FROM YOU AND ME

We are pleased with the rate of vaccinations for people aged 60 and above.

We are also happy with the progress that is being made since we started vaccinating educators and support staff from the Education sector this week.

However, we are of the firm view that many more senior citizens aged 60 and above need to come forward and get vaccinated.

We have reason to believe that the many myths and false beliefs that have been made about the safety of the COVID - 19 vaccines have created a sense of hesitancy and doubt among many people.

According to anecdotal evidence, this seems particularly true among African people in townships and villages.

We want to reassure all the "doubting Thomases" that all COVID - 19 vaccines that are authorised for use in South Africa have undergone rigorous scientific tests, and are therefore safe to use. They pose no threat.

Coupled with non-pharmaceutical interventions such as the wearing of masks, regular hand washing or sanitization and social distances, vaccines are the only defence that we can give our bodies against this deadly virus.

We call upon ogogo nomkhulu to register for the vaccination, and to young people who are better at using technology to help them in this regard.

Those senior citizens who are unable to register themselves are urged to visit vaccination sites.

We will register and vaccinate them.

CONCERN OF RISING NEW INFECTIONS

Meanwhile, the stark reality that we need to acknowledge is that the Province of KwaZulu Natal is now experiencing a significant rise in COVID-19 new infections, along with other provinces that have already hit their peak and declared a resurgence.

This is something we all should be worried about. Given the increasing rate of new infections, we simply cannot allow the virus to take its toll and claim many lives as it did during the previous two waves.

You, Me and all of Us together have a responsibility to prevent the onset of the 3rd wave.

In order for us to achieve this, we all need to practice responsible social behavior at all times, in order to protect ourselves and one another.

We need to embrace the New Normal, and religiously practice the COVID-19 protocols.

WE MUST ENSURE THAT:



We avoid large gatherings;



We wear our masks at all times;



We wash our hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer regularly; and



Maintain social distancing.

We appeal to younger people to protect the elderly and those with co-morbidities by avoiding parties and large crowds; as well as wearing masks even at home.



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
HEALTH
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER FOR VACCINATION



It is important to note that even after vaccinating, we still have to adhere to these non-pharmaceutical interventions.

Together, we can defeat COVID - 19